

SEP 10 2007

Customer No.: 31561  
Application No.: 10/708,805  
Docket No.: 12264-US-PA**REMARKS****Present Status of Application**

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 4-5, 12-17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Greeff et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0083255). The Office Action further rejected claims 2-3 and 7-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greeff et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0083255). Furthermore, the Office Action rejected claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greeff et al. as applied to claim 17 above, and further in view of Chao (US Patent No. 7,099,972).

Applicants have amended claims 1, 7, 12 and 16. Support for the changes can be found throughout the specification and the drawings. All of the drawings illustrate that the devices, e.g., the first device and the second device as shown in Fig. 2, are provided in parallel for accessing. As such, claims 1, 7, 12 and 16 define apparatus or system for accessing a plurality of devices in parallel.

Applicants have respectfully added a new claim 20, which is supported by Fig. 1 without entering new matter.

**Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102**

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 4-5, 12-17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Greeff et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0083255).

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In response to the rejection thereto, Applicants have amended claims 1, 12 and 16 and hereby otherwise traverses this rejection. As such, Applicants submit that the present invention as set forth in claims 1, 4-5, 12-17 and 19 is novel and unobvious over Greeff, or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination, and should be allowed.

As currently amended, each of independent claims 1, 12 and 16 now defines a system or an apparatus for accessing a plurality of devices in parallel, e.g., the first device and the second device.

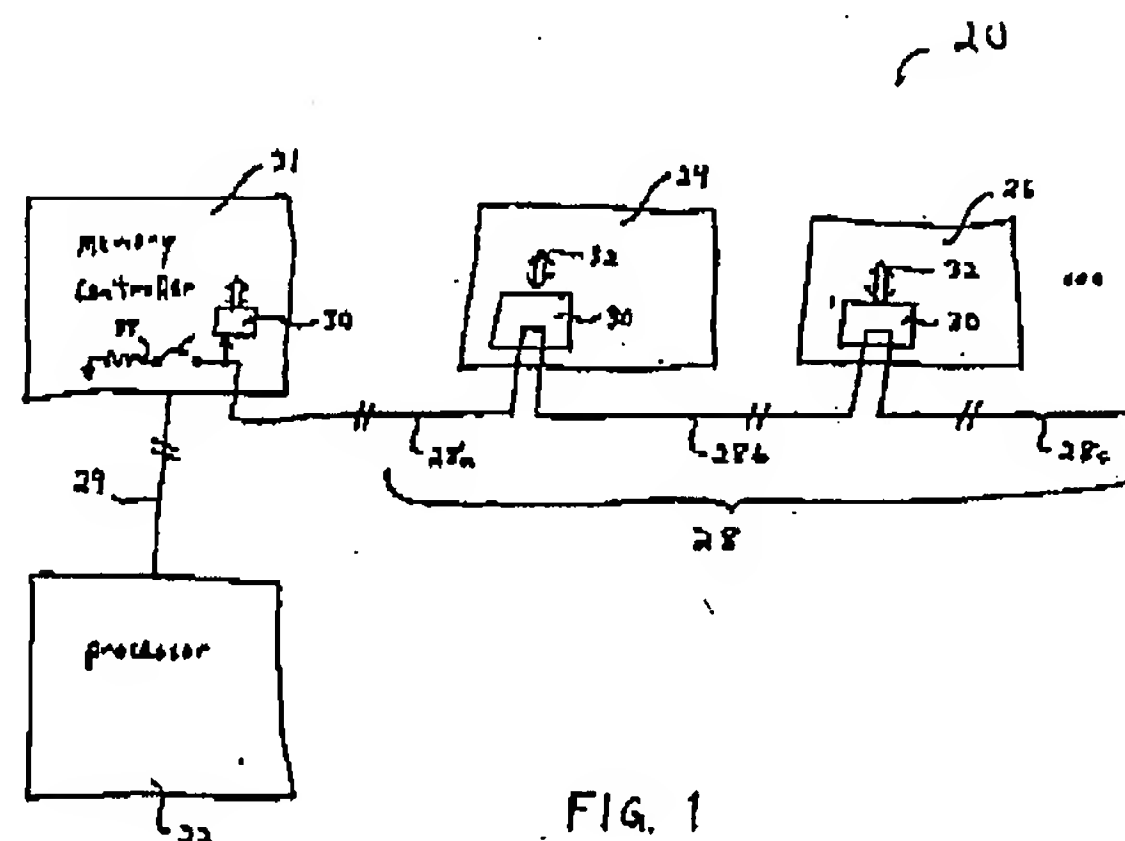


FIG. 1

As stated in item 3 at Page 2 of the Office Action, single shared bus 28a (Greeff; Fig.1) connects control apparatus 31 and first device 24 and thus transfer data to/from first device 24. Single shared bus 28a also

transfers data to/from device 26 in that when control apparatus 31 sends/receives data to/from device 26 that the data must pass through single shared bus 28a.

However, the invention, as claimed, is a system for accessing at least a first device and a second device in parallel, the first device and the second device being provided in parallel for the system. For example, as shown in FIG.1, the first device 160 and the second device 170 are accessed in parallel by the control apparatus 100, which is different from the manner of single shared bus 28a as showed in the Greeff.

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As such, claims 1, 12 and 16 are submitted to be novel and unobvious over Greeff,

or any of the other cited references, taken alone or in combination, and thus should be allowed.

Further, claims 4, 5, 13-16, 19 depend on allowable independent claims 1, 12, and 16, respectively, and thus should also be allowed.

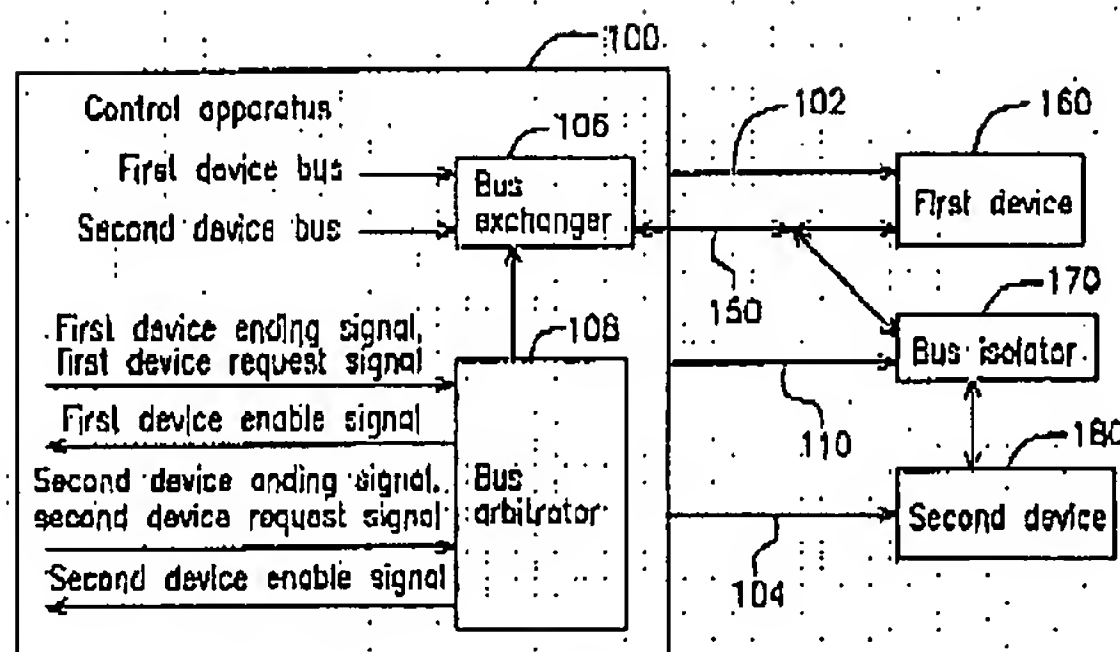


FIG. 1

### Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Office Action further rejected claims 2-3 and 7-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greeff et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0083255).

If independent claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record, then its dependent claims are allowable as a matter of law, because these dependent claims contain all features of their respective independent claim 1. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Additionally and notwithstanding the foregoing reasons for the allowability of claim 1, these dependent claims recite further features and/or combinations of features that are patentably distinct from the prior art of record.

For example, claim 2 further recites that “a bus exchanger, coupled to the single shared bus for switching the authority for the single shared bus between the first

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device and the second device; and a bus arbitrator, coupled to the bus exchanger so that the bus arbitrator controls the bus exchanger to connect the single shared bus with a circuit internally linked to the first device when the control apparatus needs to access the first device and the bus arbitrator controls the bus exchanger to connect the single shared bus with a circuit internally linked to the second device when the control apparatus needs to access the second device", which are not taught or suggested by the Greeff.

As stated in item 3 at Page 2 of the Office Action, single shared bus 28a transfers data to/from device 26 in that when control apparatus 31 sends/receives data to/from device 26 that the data must pass through single shared bus 28a. By the manner of the Greeff, it can not provide a bus exchanger, coupled to the single shared bus, for switching the authority for the single shared bus between the first device and the second device, as claimed, because the first device 24 is interposed between the control apparatus 31 and the device 26. However, in claim 2, the first device and the second device are accessed in parallel by the control apparatus, which is different from the manner of single shared bus 28a as showed in the Greeff.

Claim 7 contains similar limitation which has been discussed as not taught, disclosed, or suggested by Greeff, and thus should be allowed.

Claims 8-11 depend on allowable independent claim 7, and thus should also be allowed.

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The Office Action rejected claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Greeff et al. as applied to claim 17 above, and further in view of Chao (US Patent No. 7,099,972).

Applicants submit that claim 18 depends on allowable claim 16, and thus should also be allowable.

**New Claim**

Claim 20 is newly added depending on allowable independent claim 1, and thus should also be allowed.

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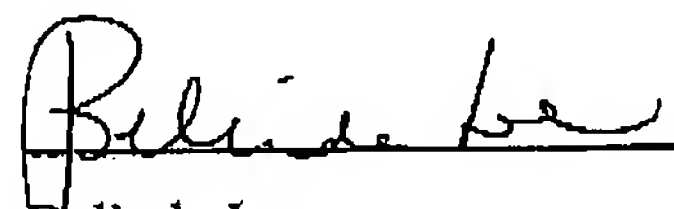
**CONCLUSION**

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 1-19 and new claim 20 are in proper condition for allowance and an action to such effect is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Date :

Sept. 10, 2007

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